

Total Maximum Daily Load Progress Report		Alamo River Sediment TMDL	
Regional Water Board	Colorado River Basin, Region 7	STATUS	<input type="checkbox"/> Conditions Improving
Beneficial uses affected:	RARE, REC-1, REC-2, WARM, WILD		<input type="checkbox"/> Data Inconclusive
Pollutant(s) addressed:	Silt (TSS and Turbidity)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Improvement Needed
Implemented through:	USICFB, IID, Prohibition		<input type="checkbox"/> TMDL Achieved/Waterbody Delisted
Approval date:	June 28, 2002		

TMDL Summary

The Alamo River originates in Mexico about half mile south of the International Boundary, and flows northward into the United States to its terminus at the Salton Sea in Imperial County, California. The Alamo River is dominated by discharges from Imperial Valley agriculture. The sediment concentrations exceed the water quality objectives established to protect warm water ecosystems, endangered species, and recreational beneficial uses of the Alamo River.

The [Alamo River Sediment TMDL](#) was completed by the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Board (Regional Water Board) and approved by U.S. EPA in June 2002. A sediment conditional prohibition for Imperial Valley was also adopted by the Regional Water Board and approved by U.S. EPA in 2005. The TMDL implementation relies on controlling sediment or total suspended solids (TSS) from agricultural runoff by the agricultural community in Imperial Valley. The TMDL targets are being implemented in 4 phases over 12 years, with final targets to be achieved by 2014.

Alamo River Watershed



TMDL Reductions and Targets

Phase	Time Period	Reduction from Existing Conditions ^a	Target (TSS mg/L)
Phase 1	2002-2005	15%	320
Phase 2	2006-2008	25%	240
Phase 3	2009-2011	10%	216
Phase 4	2012-2014	8%	200

^a Percent reductions indicate the reduction required in TSS at the end of each phase, starting with the (2002) average concentration of 377 mg/L.

Water Quality Outcomes

- Conditions of the Alamo River have not improved over a period of 9 years.
- Water quality data results at the outlet and near the outlet locations (Drop 3 and 6) are inconclusive and do not always meet the TMDL Target.
- Water quality data results at the Border and near the border locations (Drop 10 and 8) always meet the TMDL Target.
- Sediment loading from agricultural runoff is variable.
- TMDL Implementation Program needs to be revised.

Alamo River Water Quality

